

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: Dec. 29, 2005

Contact: Jill Warren Lucas
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 39 NEW JOBS FOR NASH COUNTY
\$25,000 One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Eagle Press Expand

RALEIGH- Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Eagle Press, manufacturers of printed business materials, will expand its Nash County facility creating 39 new jobs and investing \$1.77 million in the area during the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$25,000 One North Carolina Fund Grant.

"North Carolina's No.1 rated business climate allows companies like Eagle Press to grow and expand," said Easley. "We will continue to make the necessary investments in workforce development, education and infrastructure to maintain our top-rated, business-friendly climate."

Eagle Press is a national leading printer of personalized business materials such as business cards, letterheads and envelopes for major U.S. corporations. While wages will vary, the expected average weekly wage of the new jobs is \$650 plus benefits, which is higher than the Nash County average weekly wage of \$591, not including benefits.

"Thanks to the dedication of our employees along with a local and state support system, we have been able to continue a strong growth pattern," said Lane Weatherly, president of Eagle Press. "We were recruited heavily by other states, including Virginia, but in the end North Carolina was the best business decision."

The One North Carolina Fund assists the state in recruiting and expanding quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of this Fund, more than 17,000 jobs and \$2 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

Other partners who helped make this announcement possible include Nash County, the City of Rocky Mount, Carolina's Gateway Partnership and North Carolina's Eastern Region.

For more information about the company and employment opportunities, visit www.eaglepress.com.

###